

# HEDIS<sup>®</sup> HIGHLIGHT

## Follow-Up After Abnormal Mammogram Assessment (FMA-E)

*A quality measure that supports timely follow-up and better outcomes for women.*

The AvMed logo features the company name in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letters 'A' and 'M' are significantly larger than the other letters. A yellow circular graphic element, consisting of two curved lines, encircles the 'A' and 'M'.

### What is the measure?

FMA-E assesses the percentage of women ages 40–74 with an abnormal mammogram finding who receive appropriate follow-up within 90 days.

- **BI-RADS 0 (Incomplete):** requiring additional diagnostic evaluation.
- **BI-RADS 4–5 (High Risk):** requiring biopsy evaluation.

### Why is this measure important?

- Ensures timely follow-up of abnormal findings to detect cancer earlier.
- Reduces delays in diagnosis and treatment.
- Improves patient outcomes and experience.
- Helps your practice achieve higher HEDIS scores and support quality incentives.

### How can I improve my HEDIS scores?

#### **BI-RADS 0 (Incomplete)**

- Ensure additional diagnostic evaluation is completed within 90 days of the initial abnormal screening.
- Document completion of the diagnostic study.
- Track and follow up on outstanding orders.

#### **BI-RADS 4–5 (High Risk)**

- Ensure image-guided or surgical biopsy is performed within 90 days of the initial abnormal screening.
- Document the biopsy procedure and results.
- Ensure timely communication of results and next steps to the patient.

### Helpful hints for your practice?

- Use recall systems to identify patients with abnormal results and track follow-up.
- Close care gaps regularly using EMR reports and dashboards.
- Confirm patient contact information and address barriers.
- Schedule diagnostic tests or biopsies before the patient leaves the office when possible.
- Communicate clearly with patients about the importance and urgency of follow-up.

## What is needed to close the gap?

### If BI-RADS = 0 (Incomplete)

To close the gap, the member must receive ONE of the following within 90 days of the abnormal mammogram date (91 days total):

- Diagnostic mammogram  
OR
- Breast ultrasound

### Examples:

- Additional diagnostic mammography
- Targeted breast ultrasound
- Follow-up imaging after incomplete study

### If BI-RADS = 4 or 5 (High Risk)

To close the gap, the member must receive:

- Breast biopsy within 90 days of the abnormal mammogram date (91 days total)

### Examples:

- Core needle biopsy
- Stereotactic breast biopsy
- Ultrasound-guided biopsy
- Excisional biopsy

## Resources

- [NCCN Breast Cancer Screening & Diagnosis Guidelines](#)
- [American College of Radiology \(ACR BI-RADS Atlas\)](#)
- [CDC Breast Cancer Screening Resources](#)

## Best Practice Tip

### Use this 5-Point Abnormal Mammogram Follow-Up Checklist

1. Review abnormal mammogram results promptly.
2. Communicate results and next steps to the patient.
3. Ensure appropriate follow-up is completed within 90 days.
4. Document completion of follow-up and results.
5. Close the loop and share outcomes and plan with the patient.

## Did you know?

A NEW HEDIS MY 2025 measure reported for Commercial, Medicaid, and Medicare. Higher performance rates indicate better quality care.

**Timely follow-up. Better outcomes. Stronger performance.**